Message Text

SECRET

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64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 261402 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2333

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCEUR

SECDEF WASHDC

SECRETSANAA 1153

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SA, YE, UR, MASS

SUBJ: SAUDI AMBASSADOR ACCUSES US OF RESPONSIBILITY

FOR DELAY IN ARMS DELIVERIES

CIOCEUR FOR POLAD

SECDEF FOR ISA

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE UNFORTUNATELY BEEN ABLE TO DOCUMENT FACT THAT, TO EXPLAIN HIS OWN GOVERNMENT'S SLOWNESS IN GETTING NEEDED ARMS ASSISTANCKITO YEMEN AND DEFLECT YEMENI CRITICISMS, IAUDI AMBASSADOR SUDAIRY HAS BEEN SPREADING THE WORD THAT USG LACK OF SUPPORT IS RESPONSIBLE. END SUPPORT.

2. NEW GRANIAN AMB

SSADOR DR. HOSSEIN SABETI PAID COURTEST
CALL ON AMBASSADOR JUNE 26. IN EXTENSIVE TOUR D' HORIZON
AMBASSADOR SABETI
MENTIONED THAT DURING HIS INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH PRIMIN HAJRI, LATTER HAD MADE PLEA
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FOR IRANIAN MILITARY SUPPORT IN VIEW WHAT HE

CITED AS FAILURE OF SAUDIS AND AMERICANS COME THROUGH WITH EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE.

- 3. IN LATER CALL ON SAUDI AMBASSADOR SUDAIRY SABETI ASKED SUDAIRY FOR COMMENT ON HAJRI REMARK, POINTING OUT THAT IN GOI'S VIEW SAUDI ARABIA IS NORTH YEMEN'S NEAREST NEIGHBOR AND SHOULD HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE. SUDAIRY REPLIED THAT SAG WISHED TO BE HELPFUL BUT USG UNWIGYZKNG PROVIDE SAG WITH REPLACEMENTS FOR ITEMS DELIVERED TO YEMEN. GIVEN USG POSITION, SAJ HAD SO FAR BEEN UNABLE HELP EFFECTIVELY AS IT COULD NOT RISH DENUDING ITSELF OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR POSSIBLE TWO-FRONT CONFRONTATION WITH IRAQ IN NORTH AND PDRY IN SOUTH. SABETI ASKED SUDAIRY IF HE COULD REPORT THIS TO TEHRAN. SUDAIYR URGED HIM DO SO AND SUGGESTED HE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT SHAH PRESS THE AMERICANS TO BE MORE HELPFUL.
- 4. SABETI SAID HE HAD REPORTED CONVERSATION WITH SUDAIRY TO TEHRAN IN FULL.
- 5. AMBASSADOR INFORMED AMBASSADOR SABETI OF GENERAL AND TRU SATE OF PLAY AS REGARDS MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN THROUGH SAUDI ARABIA.
- 6. EVEN IN HIS SHORT STAY, IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HAS LEARNED FROM CONTACTS WITH YARG OFFICIALS THAT SAUDI AMBASSADOR WAGING CAMPAIGN TO DISPLACE PRESIDENT IRYANI AND REINTRODUCE FORMER PRIMIN, COL. HASSAN AL- AMRI. GIVEN YEMENIS' PRIDE AND HISTORY OF DIFFICULT RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA, SABETI THROUGHT IT HIGHLY IMPROPER AND UNWISE FOR A SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO BE SO OPENLY LOBBYING FOR THE REMOVAL OF YAR PRESIDENT. AMBASSADOR AGREED, SAYING WE HAD BEEN DOING OUR BEST PERSUADE YARG TO LIVE WITH SUDAIRY IN CONSIDERATION OF DESASTROUS CONSEQUENCES TO SAG/ YARG COOPERATION WE TRYING TO FOSTER SHOULD YEMENIS CARRY THEIR DISPLEASURE TOP POINT OF REQUESTING SUDAIRY'S RECALL.

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7. SABETI SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS FROM TEHRAN WERE TO HAVE CLOSEST, COMPLETELY OPEN RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS EMBASSY. IRAN WISHES PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN ALTHOUGH IT ANTICIPATES THIS WILL BE ESSENTIALLY IN ECONOMIC RATHER THAN MILITARY FIELD. CRAWFORD

SECRET

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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TAGS: MASS, SA, UR, YE

To: AMMAN CINCEUR JIDDA **KUWAIT** LONDON

SECSTATE WASHDC

DELIVERIES CIOCEUR FOR POLAD SECDEF

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005